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(b) if so, who is administering the functions of the Panchayat Court; and

(c) whether representations have been made against his being so appointed on the ground of his being the leader of a faction?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The civil functions of the superseded Panchayat Court are exercised by the village munsif appointed under section 7 of the Madras Village Courts Act, 1888, and its criminal functions by the Sub-Magistrate, Cheyyar.

(c) No representations have been received by Government.

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" With reference to clause (b) of the answer, may I ask whether the Government will not take steps to reconstitute the panchayat court under the Panchayat Act? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" No, Sir."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I know the reason for not reconstituting it, Sir? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Because the District Magistrate has reported that, on account of the existence of factions there, the panchayat court is not working satisfactorily."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask the hon. Member whether the Government cannot give the right to elect the members of the Panchayat Court to a faction which can command confidence? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Having regard to the District Magistrate's report, the answer is in the negative."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I know what the strength of the factions is? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Notice."

Forest Panchayats

Assignment of a portion of land forming the Ramiampatti reserve to cultivating ryots.

* 468 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the people of Remenahalli, Budanatham, etc., villages in Harur taluk of Salem district have petitioned to Government requesting them to throw open the Ramiampatti reserve forest under the control of the forest panchayat of that place, and assign the fertile portions of the land to the poor ryots;

(b) if so, what action the Government have taken and how the matter was finally disposed of;

(c) whether it is a fact that that forest area was once cultivable patta lands in or about the fasli 1281; and

(d) if so, what objections there exist to assigning the land now?

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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A petition from ryots of Remenahalli and other villages, dated 4th November 1929, containing a request for the disreservation and assignment of 1,500 acres of land in Mekalnayakanahalli village, under the management of Remanahalli Forest Panchayat was transferred to the Board of Revenue for disposal.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Government have not the information.

Alleged refusal of grazing facilities by the Kallapadi Forest Panchayat, North Arcot district.

* 469 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he is aware that the Kallapadi Forest Panchayat in the North Arcot district has neither been permitting the neighbouring villagers of Pasumathur, Vepur, Kavanur, Amanan Kuppam from taking their usual supply of leaf manure from the forest range nor allowing their cattle to graze there;

(*b*) whether there is any other forest range of a like nature available to the peasants of the said villages; and

(*c*) what steps he proposes to take to remedy these grievances?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have not the information. They have called for it.

(*c*) This question will be considered when the information is received.

Irrigation

Extent of the ayacut under the Kannambadi dam.

* 470 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the total of ayacut irrigated under the Kannambadi dam in the British territory;

(*b*) how is this total extent distributed among the districts of Tanjore, South Arcot and Trichinopoly;

(*c*) what is the area that is fixed for each of the said districts and when it was fixed;

(*d*) whether there is any understanding or agreement between this Government and the Mysore State with regard to the total extent of British land to be irrigated under the Kannambadi dam apart from the award of 1929; and

(*e*) if so whether a copy of such agreement will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) There is no ayacut irrigated under the Kannambadi dam in British territory.

(*b*) *to* (*e*) Do not arise.